

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 TEL AV 06756 241340Z

62

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01

AID-05 /063 W

----- 123383

R 241104Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8696

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE TEL AVIV 6756

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: PINT, IS

SUBJ: NRP YOUTH GROUP LEADER ZVULUM HAMMER TO BE MINISTER OF
SOCIAL WELFARE

1. SUMMARY. ELECTION OF NRP YOUTH GROUP LEADER ZVULUN
HAMMER TO FILL VACANT CABINET POSITION INCREASES STRENGTH OF
HARDLINERS OPPOSED TO GOLAN HEIGHTS WITHDRAWALS, AND PRESAGES
DIFFICULTIES FOR MORE MODERATE NRP MINISTERS BURG AND RAPHAEL.
END SUMMARY.

2. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED. NATIONAL RELIVIOUS PARTY EXECUTIVE
OCT 23 ELECTED YOUTH GROUP LEADER ZVULUN HAMMER AS ITS THIRD
CABINET MINISTER. HAMMER WILL BE APPOINTED MINISTER OF SOCIAL
WELFARE, REPLACING MICHAEL HAZANI WHO DIED ON JULY 2. IT IS
EXPECTED THAT RABIN WILL ANNOUNCE APPOINTMENT AT OCT 26
CABINET MEETING, AND HAMMER WILL BE SWORN IN EITHER SAME DAY
OR OCT 27.

3. AFTER HIS ELECTION, HAMMER TOLD REPORTERS THAT HE WAS
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 TEL AV 06756 241340Z

JOINING GOVERNMENT IN ORDER TO TAKE PART IN THE EXPECTED

STRUGGLE OVER QUOTE THE LAND OF ISRAEL UNQUOTE AND IN RESPONSE TO APPEALS FROM GOLAN HEIGHTS SETTLERS TO WORK FROM WITHIN THE GOVERNMENT AGAINST WITHDRAWALS FROM THE HEIGHTS. ASKED BY JOURNALISTS WHETHER HE WOULD RESIGN FROM CABINET IF IT DECIDED ON WITHDRAWAL FROM GOLAN HEIGHTS, HRE REPORTEDLY REPLIED THAT HE WAS CERTAIN THAT NONE OF THE NRP REPRESENTATIVES WOULD AGREE TO SUCH WITHDRAWAL. HE ADDED THAT HE WOULD BE TRUE TO HIS PRINCIPLES, AND WOULD QUOTE DRAW THE APPROPRIATE CONCLUSION UNQUOTE IF NECESSARY.

4. STATEMENTS BY VARIOUS NRP LEADERS FAIL TO MAKE CLEAR WHETHER HAMMER AND YOUTH GROUP HAVE AGREED TO ACCEPT PARTY DISCIPLINE- QUESTION WHICH HAD HELD UP APPROVAL OF HIS CANDIDACY FOR LAST SEVERAL WEEKS. INTERIOR MINISTER BURG SAID THAT HAMMER WOULD BE BOUND BY COALITION DISCIPLINE, AS HE IS REPRESENTATIVE OF ENTIRE PARTY AND NOT JUST OF HIS FACTION. HAMMER, HOWEVER, LEFT MATTER IN THE AIR BY SAYING, QUOTE I'M NOT ENTERING THE GOVERNMENT IN ORDER TO LEAVE IT, BUT I WON'T STAY THERE UNDER ALL CIRCUMSTANCES.UNQUOTE.

5. IN RELATED DEVELOPMENT, NRP SECRETARY GENERAL BERNSTEIN TOLD PRESS THAT NRP WILL CONTINUE TO DEMAND FOURTH MINISTER IN ACCORDANCE WITH COALITION AGREEMENT. PRESS COMMENTATORS NOTE THAT THIS WOULD IN TURN LEAD TO RENEWED DEMANDS BY MAPAM AND ILP FOR ADDITIONAL MINISTER, GIVEN GOI EFFORT TO IMPOSE AUSTERITY PROGRAM INCLUDING TRIMMING OF GOVERNMENT BUDGET, AND INEVITABLE PUBLIC UPROAR IF ATTEMPT WERE MADE TO INCREASE CABINET FURTHER, SUGGESTS COMPROMISE MAY BE FOUND BY GIVING NRP AN UNSPECIFIED DEPUTY MINISTERSHIP. END UNCLAS.

6. COMMENT: BEGIN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE. HAMER WILL REPRESENT MOST HARDLINE POSITION IN CABINET ON FOREIGN POLICY AND SECURITY ISSUES. NRP YOUTH GROUP ALREADY HAS COME OUT PUBLICLY AGAINST ANY WITHDRAWAL ON GOLAN HEIGHTS IN CONTEXT OF INTERIM AGREEMENT, AND EVE FOR FINAL AGREEMENT WITH SYRIA WOULD TAKE TOUGH STAND (TEL AVIV 6281). NRP YOUTH GROUP IS ALSO LINKED WITH GUSH EMUNIM MOVEMENT, WHICH IS AMONG MOST VOCAL ELEMENT CURRENTLY PRESSING FOR INCREASED JEWISH SETTLEMENT ON GOLAN. HAMMER BELIEVES THAT ISRAEL HAS BOTH RELIGIOUS/HISTORICAL RIGHT AND SECURITY OBLIGATION TO RETAIN ALL OF WEST BANK ON PERMANENT BASIS. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 TEL AV 06756 241340Z

IN ADDITION TO STRENGTHENING POSITION OF HARDLINERS WITHIN CABINET, SUCH AS GALILI AND HILLEL, HAMMER'S ENTRY INTO CABINET MAY CREATE PROBLEMS FOR MORE MODERATE NRP MINISTERS BURG AND RAPHAEL. AS ONE OF HAMMER'S SUPPORTERS HAS PUT IT, HE WILL BE QUOTE TROJAN HORSE UNQUOTE: IMPLICATION IS THAT HAMMER WILL TRY TO CONSTRAIN BURG AND RAPHAEL WITH OBVIOUS UNSTATED THREAT OF REVEALING TO NRP PUBLIC WHAT THEY SAY IN CABINET MEETINGS IF THEIR VIEWS DEPART FROM QUOTE LAND OF ISRAEL UNQUOTE

PRINCIPLES.

TOON

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CABINET, PERSONNEL APPOINTMENTS, MINISTER COUNSELORS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 24 OCT 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: greeneet
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975TELAV06756
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750371-0376
From: TEL AVIV
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19751022/aaaaatsx.tel
Line Count: 117
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: greeneet
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 01 AUG 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <01 AUG 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <28 NOV 2003 by greeneet>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NRP YOUTH GROUP LEADER ZVULUM HAMMER TO BE MINISTER OF SOCIAL WELFARE
TAGS: PINT, IS, (HAMMER, ZVULUM)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006